IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): A method for producing

a pharmaceutical composition that when placed in the mouth immediately disintegrates releasing active ingredient (a) comprising:

vigorously mixing

(a) an anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient with

(b) a copolymer consisting of free-radical polymerized C_1 to C_4 esters of acrylic or methacrylic acid and further (meth)acrylate monomers which have functional tertiary amino groups, and

(c) 5 to 50% by weight, based on (b), of a C_{12} to C_{22} carboxylic acid

in a melt,

solidifying the mixture, and

grinding to an active ingredient-containing powder with an average particle size of 200 μm or less,

incorporating the powder into a water-soluble matrix of at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient,

with the proviso that not more than 3% by weight, based on the copolymer (b), of emulsifiers having an HLB of at least 14 may be present.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a twin-screw extruder is employed for the purpose of vigorous mixing in the melt.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein extrusion takes place at temperatures in the range from 80 to 200°C.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the incorporation of the powder into the water-soluble matrix takes place by compression, casting, granulation or freeze drying.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A powder with an average particle size of 200 μm or less, comprising:

(a) an anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient

(b) a copolymer which consists of free-radical polymerized C_1 to C_4 esters of acrylic or methacrylic acid and further (meth)acrylate monomers which have functional tertiary amino groups, and

(c) 5 to 50% by weight, based on (b), of a C_{12} to C_{22} carboxylic acid

(d) with the proviso that less than 3% by weight based on the copolymer of an emulsifier having an HLB of at least 14 is present,

wherein said powder when placed in the mouth immediately disintegrates and releases active ingredient (a);

wherein said powder is produced by vigorously mixing

(a) the anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient with

(b) the copolymer consisting of free-radical polymerized C_1 to C_4 esters of acrylic or methacrylic acid and further (meth)acrylate monomers which have functional tertiary amino groups, and

(c) 5 to 50% by weight, based on (b), of said C_{12} to C_{22} carboxylic acid

in a melt,

solidifying the mixture,

grinding to an active ingredient-containing powder with an average particle size of 200 μm or less, and

incorporating the powder into a water-soluble matrix of at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5, wherein (a) comprises an anionic analgesic, an anionic antirheumatic, or an anionic antibiotic.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5, wherein the anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient (a) is at least one selected from the group consisting of acamprosate, aceclofenac, acemetacin, acetylcysteine, acetylsalicylic acid, acetyltyrosine, acipimox, acitretin, alanine, alendronic acid, amethopterin, amino acids, amoxicillin, ampicillin, ascorbic acid, atorvastatin, azidocillin, aztreonam, bacampicillin, baclofen, benazepril, bendamustine, benzylpenicillin, bezafibrate, biotin, bornaprine, bumetanide, cabastine, canrenoic acid, carbamoylphenoxyacetic acid, carbidopa, carbimazole, carbocisteine, carisoprodol, cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefalexin, cefazolin, cefepime, cefetamet, cefixime, cefotaxime, cefotiam, cefoxitin, cefpodoxime, ceftazidime, ceftibuten, ceftriaxone, cefuroxime, cetirizine, chenodeoxycholic acid, chlorambucil, cidofovir, cilastatin, cilazapril, cinoxacin, ciprofloxacin, cisatracurium besilate, clavulanic acid, clodronic acid, clorazepate, cromoglicic acid, desmeninol, diclofenac, dicloxacillin, enoxacin, eprosartan, etacrynic acid, etidronic acid, etofylline, etomidate, felbinac, felodipine, fenofibrate, fexofenadine, flavoxate, fleroxacin, flucloxacillin, flufenamic acid, flumazenil, flupirtine, flurbiprofen, fluvastatin, fosfomycin, fosinopril, furosemide, fusidic acid, gabapentine, gemfibrozil, ibandronic acid, ibuprofen, iloprost, imidapril, imipenem, indomethacin, irinotecan, isradipine, ketoprofen, lercanidipine, levodopa, levofloxacin, liothyronine, lipoic acid, lisinopril, lodoxamide,

lomefloxacin, lonazolac, loracarbef, loratadine, lovastatin, mefenamic acid, meropenem, mesalazine, metamizole, methotrexate, methyldopa, mezlocillin, moexipril, montelukast, moxifloxacin, mupirocin, naproxen, natamycin, nateglinide, nedocromil, nicotinic acid, nifedipine, nilvadipine, nimodipine, nisoldipine, nitrendipine, norfloxacin, ofloxacin, olsalazine, orotic acid, oxacillin, pamidronic acid, pangamic acid, penicillamine, phenoxymethylpenicillin, pentosan polysulfate, perindopril, pethidine, pipemidic acid, piperacillin, pirenoxine, piretanide, probenecid, proglumide, propicillin, prostaglandins, quinapril, quinaprilate, ramipril, repaglinide, reserpine, risedronic acid, salicylic acid, sulfasalazine, spirapril, sulbactam, sulfasalazine, sultamicillin, tazarotene, tazobactam, telmisartan, tiagabine, tiaprofenic acid, tilidine, tiludronic acid, trandolapril, tranexamic acid, valproic acid, vigabatrine, vincamine, vinpocetine, zanamivir, zoledronic acid, zopiclone, salts thereof, and isomers thereof.

Claims 8-11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5, wherein said anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient (a) has been incorporated into said copolymer (b).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The powder of Claim 5, wherein copolymer (b) comprises methyl methacrylate, butyl methacrylate, and ~~dimentylaminoethyl~~ dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The powder of Claim 5, wherein carboxylic acid (c) is at least one of lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, or stearic ~~steraric~~ acid.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5 that contains no emulsifier having an HLB (hydrophilic/lipophilic balance) of 14 or more.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5 that contains 1-3% emulsifier having an HLB (hydrophilic/lipophilic balance) of 14 or more.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5 that contains 1-2% emulsifier having an HLB (hydrophilic/lipophilic balance) of 14 or more.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The powder of Claim 5, which has a bitterness value determined by DAB 1999 method 2.8.N8 below 1,000 for at least 30 seconds after release of the active ingredient (a).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the powder of Claim 5 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 19, wherein said at least one excipient is a release agent having an HLB between 3 and 8.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 19, wherein said at least one excipient is a plasticizer having a molecular weight ranging between 100 and 20,000 and which comprises at least one hydrophilic group.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 19 in the form of a compressed tablet, suckable tablet, freeze-dried tablet, cast tablet, pastilles, sachet, chewable tablet, powder for reconstitution, lozenge and/or liquid-filled lozenge.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The powder of Claim 5 which is produced by:

vigorously mixing

(a) an anionic active pharmaceutical ingredient with

(b) a copolymer consisting of free-radical polymerized C_1 to C_4 esters of acrylic or methacrylic acid and further (meth)acrylate monomers which have functional tertiary amino groups, and

(c) 5 to 50% by weight, based on (b), of a C_{12} to C_{22} carboxylic acid

in a melt with no emulsifier having an HLB or at least 14,

solidifying the mixture, and

grinding to an active ingredient-containing powder with an average particle size of 200 μm or less,

incorporating the powder into a water-soluble matrix of at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.